

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 04129 300743Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 SS-15
NSC-05 /054 W
-----010830 300745Z /17
R 300658Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3378
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CANBERRA 4129

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: EAIR EA
SUBJECT: CIVAIR: PAN AM MELBOURNE-AUCKLAND FARE

REF: (A) STATE 132615, (B) CANBERRA 3684 (NOTAL),
(C) STATE 117800

1. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE FILL-IN AS TO WHAT HAS TRANSPIRED
WITH RESPECT TO GOVERNMENT OF NEW ZEALAND IN REGARD TO PAN AM
APPLICATION TO CHARGE DIRECT MELBOURNE-AUCKLAND FARE FOR
PASSENGERS TRAVELLING VIA SYDNEY.

2. PAN AM SUBMITTED INITIAL APPLICATION FOR DIRECT FARE TO
NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT. AFTER NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT TURNED
DOWN PAN AM APPLICATION, PAN AM APPLIED TO AUSTRALIAN
GOVERNMENT. PAN AM THUS MADE NEW ZEALAND THE LEAD HORSE, AND
FURTHER EMBASSY APPROACHES TO AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT ARE
LIKELY ONLY TO GENERATE ILL-WILL UNTIL THERE ARE NEW
DEVELOPMENT TO REPORT FROM NEW ZEALAND.

3. EMBASSY IS ALSO HESITANT REGARDING RATIONALE FOR
ASSERTING THAT IATA CIRCUITY PROVISIONS GIVE PAN AMERICAN
THE RIGHT TO DIRECT FARE FOR A CIRCUITOUS ROUTE, WHEN MELBOURNE-
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AUCKLAND FARE IS NOT AN IATA FARE. ARGUMENT FOR ALLOWING PAN
AM TO CHARGE DIRECT FARE AS MATTER OF EQUITY (AS DISTINCT
FROM RIGHT) IS, HOWEVER, OBVIOUSLY STRONG. EMBASSY IS
INCLINED TO BELIEVE THAT AUSTRALIANS ARE MORE LIKELY TO
AGREE TO CHANGE ON BASIS OF EQUITY, ONCE NIXON DECISIONS ON
AVIATION POLICY REVIEW HAVE BEEN MADE AND DISCUSSIONS
HAVE BEEN HELD WITH NEW ZEALAND, THAN AS RESULT OF PRESSURE

AT THIS STAGE TO GRANT A RIGHT WHOSE BASIS IS OPEN TO
CHALLENGE. ACCORDINGLY, EMBASSY BELIEVES FULLER UNDERSTANDING
OF NEW ZEALAND POSITION WOULD BE DESIRABLE BEFORE ANY FURTHER
APPROACHES ARE MADE TO AUSTRALAIN GOVERNMENT.
ALSTON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Draft Date: 30 may 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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